

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

AID-20 DPW-01 EUR-25 IO-12 RSR-01 /138 W

----- 018720

R 260325 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9173

USDEL FRANCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4941

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SPOT REPORT MR I: ICCS REGION  
I TROUBLES

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM AMCONGEN DANANG DATED MAR 24  
SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR ACTION/  
INFO.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 268

1. THE FOLLOWING REVIEW OF ICCS PROBLEMS WAS PREPARED BY THE HUE  
POLOFF: THE REGION I ICCS AFTER A SERIES OF MEETINGSN HAS SO  
FAR FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS IN  
THE INVESTIGATION OF THE VINH HOA PHUONG INCIDENT." IN THE  
COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES WERE  
BLATANTLY PARTIAL TO THE PRG SEIZING ON ANY EVIDENCE EVEN  
REMOTELY SUPPORTIVE OF THE PRG' S CLAIM THAT RVN GUNBOATS  
SHELLED VINH HOA PHUONG II HAMLET AND REMAING IMPERVIOUS TO  
CONFLICTING EVIDENCE.

2. ON MARCH 21 THE POLES HUNGARIANS AND INDONESIANS REPORTED  
TO FPJMC THAT THE ICCS HAD BEEN UNABLE TO INVIESTIGATE THE  
CUA VIET BATTLE AS REQUESTED BY THE RVN THE CANADIANS FOR  
WARDED A SEPARATE REPORT TO THE FPJMC CITING LACK OF COOPERA  
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TION FROM THE DRV/ PRG AS THE REASON THE INVESTIGATION HAS NOT BEEN CONDUCTED. ON MARCH 22 THE DRV/ PRG LIAISON OFFICERS WHO HAVE STATED THEY ARE NEITHER AUTHORIZED NOR QUALIFIED TO ASSIST IN AN INVESTIGATION OF THE CUA VIET BATTLE REQUESTED THE US ELEMENT OF THE JMC TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR TRANSPORTATION BACK TO SAIGON. THE ICCS HAVE NOT RECEIVED A RESPONSE TO THEIR EARLIER REQUEST FOR A NEW LIAISON TEAM BUT IS MAKING NO EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE PRESENT TEAM TO STAY.

3. POLOFF COMMENT: THE INITIAL ATTEMPT BY THE REGION I ICCS TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION ON ALLEGED CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS HAS BEEN HAMSTRUNG BY THE SAME OBSTACLES WHICH HAVE PLAGUED THERE REGIONAL TEAMS: COMMUNIST/ NON- COMMUNIST POLARIZATION WITHIN THE ICCS AND DRV/ PRG' S OBSTRUCTION OF INVESTIGATIONS BY WITHHOLDING COOPERATION. THE EMERGENCE OF THE SAME PATTERN IN REGION I CASTS FURTHER DOUBT ON THE ABILITY OF THE ICCS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY AND ITS FAILURE TO INVESTIGATE THE CUA VIET BATTLE WILL MAKE THE RVN EVEN LESS WILLING THAN IT WAS THIS TIME TO COOPERATE WITH FUTURE INVESTIGATIONS OF CHARGES MADE BY THE OTHER SIDE . END COMMENT.  
BROWN UNQUOTE  
BUNKER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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